

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for altering the properties of a capillary-pore membrane by linking at least one compound to said membrane only via an endogenous carboxyl group inherent within one or more transmembrane passageways in said membrane.

2. (Original) The method according to claims 1, wherein said alteration of said capillary-pore membrane is by attachment of one or more molecules, particles, units of matter, or combination thereof within one or more of said transmembrane passageways via covalent linkage with said endogenous carboxyl groups using any chemical procedure, thereby forming a configured separation membrane.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said endogenous carboxyl groups are modified using any chemical procedure prior to covalent attachment of one or more of molecules, particles, units of matter, or combination thereof within one or more of said transmembrane passageways using any chemical procedure, thereby forming a configured separation membrane.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 2 wherein carbodiimide reaction is used to accomplish said alteration of said membrane by linkage of a molecule, particle, or unit of matter containing an amine group with said endogenous carboxyl groups.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 2 wherein carbodiimide reaction is used to accomplish said alteration of said membrane by linkage of a molecule, particle, or unit of matter containing a thiol group with said endogenous carboxyl groups.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2 ~~wherein the~~ wherein the endogenous carboxyl groups are reacted to form anhydrides.

7-24. (Cancelled)